

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 471

By Terry

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor actor and director Bruce Campbell.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly recognize the substantial impact actors and films have on our culture; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Campbell, a self-proclaimed B-movie actor, put his chin forward and sought to express himself and bring joy to others through the medium of film; and

WHEREAS, "Look, maybe [this resolution doesn't] say every single little tiny [accomplishment], no, but basically [it] said them, yeah!"; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Campbell, alongside his then college friends Sam Raimi and Rob Tapert, labored tirelessly to acquire funding for their own aspirations to create the film *The Evil Dead*; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee was the only state that expressed enthusiasm for the project; and

WHEREAS, a significant portion of filming occurred on site at a rural cabin in Morristown, Tennessee, where the cast and film crew stayed during production and endured difficult and uncomfortable conditions; and

WHEREAS, their steadfast resolve, resulting in their success, allowed them to complete production of the supernatural horror film *The Evil Dead* in which Mr. Campbell held the star acting role portraying Ashley "Ash" J. Williams; and

WHEREAS, *The Evil Dead* has since become a cult classic film that inspired the creation of sequel films including *Evil Dead II* and *Army of Darkness* with Mr. Campbell reprising his star role in each; and

WHEREAS, after "[swallowing] this," Mr. Campbell's resulting notoriety presented opportunities for him to be selected for roles in numerous other films, including *Mindwarp*, *Congo*, *Escape from L.A.*, *The Majestic*, and *Bubba Ho-Tep* as well as several roles in television shows such as *Jack of All Trades*, *The Adventures of Brisco County, Jr.*, *Hercules: The Legendary Journeys*, *Xena: Warrior Princess*, *Burn Notice*, and *Ash vs Evil Dead*; and

WHEREAS, after setting aside his boomstick, Mr. Campbell later utilized his expansive experience in filmmaking to acquire the position of director for several movies, including *Fanalysis*, *A Community Speaks*, *Man with the Screaming Brain*, and *My Name Is Bruce*; and

WHEREAS, we wish to recognize and honor Mr. Campbell's "groovy" and enduring legacy in film and American culture; and

WHEREAS, "Hail to the king, baby"; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we recognize and honor Mr. Campbell and his expansive acting and directing career as well as reflect upon the impact his character portrayals and films have impressed upon many generations. We also extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.